

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 05914 201805Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 /020 W
-----002070 201805Z /53

P R 201145Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

UNCLAS BANGKOK 05914

USIA FOR IEA, IOP/M IBS, IPS, IOR/RIM

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: THAI MEDIA REACTION--DRUGS

COLUMNIST CHALORM, WRITING JULY 19 IN THE CONSERVATIVE, AFTERNOON DAILY SIAM RATH, DESCRIBED ARRESTED DRUG TRAFFICKER LAO FAN, PICKED UP JULY 14 WITH A HUGE AMOUNT OF HEROIN IN HIS HOUSE, AS "NO SMALL FRY" AND HOPED THE RTG WILL SQUEEZE PLENTY OF INFORMATION OUT OF HIM BEFORE SUMMARILY EXECUTING HIM.

CHALORM SAID OVER 80 PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S HEROIN TRAFFIC PASSED THROUGH LAO FAN'S HANDS AND THAT HIS ACTIVITIES HAVE CHANGED BANGKOK "FROM A DEEPLY RELIGIOUS BUDDHIST CITY INTO A CENTER WHERE THE MURDER OF MILLIONS OF OUR FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS BEGINS (THROUGH NARCOTICS), AND THIS CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE WITH NO ONE REALIZING OR BEING AWARE OF IT." LAO FAN'S TRAFFICKING SPUN "A WEB THROUGH-OUT THE WORLD," CHALORM CONTINUED, ADDING THAT HUNDREDS OR EVEN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE COOPERATE WITH HIM. EXTRACT FOLLOWS.

(BEGIN EXTRACT)

IT IS VERY CERTAIN THAT THERE MUST BE MUCH MORE BEHIND THE SCENES, THAT HIS NETWORK IS FAR MORE INTRICATE THAN HAS BEEN DISCOVERED UP TO NOW. THEREFORE, THIS SHOULD BE A GOLDEN OPPORTUN-
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ITY FOR THE POLICE AUTHORITIES TO ROUND UP AND ARREST ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN COOPERATING WITH HIM, WITH PROOF AGAINST THEM, AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE.

DO NOT RESORT TO ARTICLE 21 TO EXECUTE LAO FAN YET...

LEARN FOR CERTAIN FIRST HOW LARGE SUPPLIES OF HEROIN

ARE BROUGHT FROM THE "GOLDEN TRIANGLE" ON THE BORDER WITH BURMA TO BANGKOK, HOW THEY ARE SMUGGLED ABROAD, AND HOW OUR THAI AUTHORITIES COULD HAVE BEEN IGNORANT OF ALL THIS HEROIN THAT PASSED THROUGH BANGKOK.

THE REASON WHY I AM "SKIRTING THE CAMP" IS BECAUSE I FEAR THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE IN TOO GREAT A HURRY TO RESORT TO ARTICLE 21 TO EXECUTE LAO FAN BEFORE ALL INFORMATION IS OBTAINED FROM HIM.

I DO NOT WORRY THAT LAO FAN WILL BE EXECUTED*... MY ONLY WORRY IS THAT THAILAND, MY COUNTRY, WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE CENTER OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AFTER LAO FAN IS DEAD.

THIS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY WE NOW HAVE MUST NOT BE MISSED, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES*

(END EXTRACT)

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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